

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DOE-12 ACDA-12 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NASA-01 NSC-05
SOE-01 SS-15 EB-08 IO-13 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01
SP-02 COME-00 TRSE-00 /112 W
-----106139 201440Z /46

R 201357Z DEC 77

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3331

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY MADRID

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DEPT PLEASE PASS NASA

E.O.: 11652

TAGS: TSPA, XT

SUBJ: EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY PACKAGE DEAL

REF: PARIS 5350 23 FEB 77

1. SUMMARY - CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS WAS MADE AT A
MEETING OF THE EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY COUNCIL OF DEC. 12-
14 TOWARDS FINAL ACCEPTANCE OF PACKAGE OF EUROPEAN SPACE
PROGRAMS WHICH HAD BEEN APPROVED IN PRINCIPLE BY SCIENCE
MINISTERS OF MEMBER COUNTRIES IN FEBRUARY.

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2. BACKGROUND - IN FEBRUARY 1977 THE ESA COUNCIL MET AT
MINISTERIAL LEVEL AND AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO EMBARK ON A
PACKAGE OF SOME NEW AND SOME CONTINUING BUT EXPANDED
SPACE PROGRAMS. IT INCLUDED A MORE AMBITIOUS TELE-
COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAM, AN ARIANE PRODUCTION PHASE, A
SPACELAB UTILIZATION PROGRAM AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN

EARTH RESOURCES TRACKING NETWORK TO BE CALLED EARTHNET. THEY FURTHER AGREED THAT THE REGULAR DELEGATES TO THE COUNCIL AND THE ESA SECRETARIAT SHOULD FINALIZE THE IMPLEMENTING DETAILS AND BUDGET LEVELS FOR THE INDIVIDUAL PROGRAMS BY MID 1977. THIS HAS BEEN DONE ONLY FOR EARTH-NET. APPROVAL OF THE OTHER PROGRAMS HAS BEEN DELAYED ON A MONTH-BY-MONTH BASIS, WITH FINAL APPROVAL ALWAYS SCHEDULED FOR THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING. ALTHOUGH SOME IMPORTANT DETAILS REMAIN TO BE RESOLVED, CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS WAS MADE AT THE DEC. 12-14 COUNCIL MEETING.

3. COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAM - A RESOLUTION WAS PASSED BY A VOTE OF TEN TO ONE (GERMANY VOTING AGAINST) APPROVING THE FIRST MAROTS LAUNCH ON THE FOURTH DEVELOPMENT LAUNCH OF ARIANE, APPROVING EXECUTION OF THE FOUR ELEMENTS OF THE PROGRAM WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE AGENCY AND INVITING MEMBER COUNTRIES TO AGREE ON THE NECESSARY LEGAL TEXTS. THESE FOUR ELEMENTS OF THE PROGRAM ARE TWO MAROTS MARITIME COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITES, TWO EUROPEAN COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITES (ECS-1 AND 2), A HEAVY COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE (H-SAT) FOR EXPERIMENTAL DIRECT BROADCASTING AND A TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM. IN ADDITION TO THE RESOLUTION, NINE MEMBER COUNTRIES (ALL EXCEPT GERMANY AND HOLLAND) SUBSCRIBED TO A DECLARATION INDICATING THEY WOULD PARTICIPATE IN ONE OR MORE OF THE FOUR PROGRAM ELEMENTS AND PROVIDE FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO WITHIN PLUS OR MINUS 5 OF A STATED AMOUNT. AGAINST AN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ESTIMATED TOTAL REQUIREMENT OF 285 MAU'S, 220 MAU'S WERE SUBSCRIBED. FRANCE'S PORTION WILL BE 66 MAU'S AND THAT OF UK, 60 MAU'S; COMMITMENTS OF OTHER COUNTRIES ARE NOT KNOWN (1 MAU \$1.1 MILLION). ADDITIONAL DISCUSSIONS ON DETAILED PLANS AND BUDGETS WILL BE HELD IN LATE JANUARY. ESA HOPES THAT GERMANY WILL MAKE A COMMITMENT IN THE NEAR FUTURE AND THAT FINAL COUNCIL APPROVAL OF THE DETAILED PROGRAM PLANS CAN BE ACHIEVED AT THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULED 21 FEBRUARY, 1978.

4. ARIANE PRODUCTION - THE COUNCIL VOTED UNANIMOUSLY AN ENABLING RESOLUTION WITHOUT COMMITMENT TO FUNDS. DETAILS ON FUNDING REMAIN TO BE WORKED OUT, BUT EVERYONE SEEMS OPTIMISTIC. IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT THE FUNDING SCHEME MAY BE SIMILAR TO THE FOLLOWING. MEMBER COUNTRIES WILL EITHER CONTRIBUTE OR ARRANGE FOR LOANS TO BE ASSUMED ON THEIR BEHALF. FROM THESE SOURCES, A REVOLVING FUND WILL BE ESTABLISHED AND USED FOR THE PRODUCTION PROGRAM. FUNDS OBTAINED FROM THE SALE OF LAUNCH VEHICLES WILL BE RETURNED TO THE FUND. AT THE END OF THE PROGRAM, CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS WOULD BE REFUNDED A PERCENTAGE OF THEIR INVESTMENTS THAT COULD CONCEIVABLY VARY FROM ZERO TO

100, DEPENDING ON THE SUCCESS OF PROGRAM AND SELLING
PRICE OF THE HARDWARE. A SECOND RESOLUTION, PASSED EIGHT
TO THREE (GERMANY, ITALY AND SPAIN VOTING AGAINST)
APPROVED A PRICING POLICY FOR ARIANE LAUNCHES IN SUPPORT

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OF THE AGENCY'S OWN PROGRAMS, SUCH AS THE EXOSAT
SCIENTIFIC SATELLITE, ECS, H-SAT, ETC. LAUNCHING COSTS
FOR INDIVIDUAL PROGRAMS ARE CHARGED TO THAT PROGRAM'S
BUDGET. THE LAUNCH PRICE IS DEPENDENT ON THE CLASS OF
SATELLITE TO BE PLACED IN GEOSTATIONARY ORBIT. FOR
SINGLE DELTA-CLASS SATELLITE LAUNCH, 24.4 MAU; FOR AN
ATLAS CENTAUR-CLASS SATELLITE LAUNCH, 30.95 MAU AND FOR
A DUAL LAUNCH OF TWO DELTA-CLASS SATELLITES, 31.5 MAU.
(THIS LAST CAPABILITY REQUIRES AN ADDITIONAL DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAM, NOT IN THE ORIGINAL BASELINE). THE SAME

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHED GROUND RULES UNDER WHICH THE
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AGENCY CAN NEGOTIATE WITH THIRD PARTIES FOR ARIANE
LAUNCHES. DETAILS OF THESE GROUND RULES ARE NOT AVAIL-
ABLE BUT IT IS CERTAIN THAT THE AGENCY WILL OFFER ARIANE
LAUNCHES TO THIRD PARTIES AT LESS THAN THE COST OF HARD-
WARE AND ASSOCIATED SERVICES.

5. SPACELAB UTILIZATION - THE COUNCIL APPROVED THE
NECESSARY BUDGET OF 12 MAU REQUIRED TO SUPPORT THE
EUROPEAN PORTION OF THE PAYLOAD TO BE CARRIED IN THE
FIRST SPACELAB MISSION. THEY ALSO ESTABLISHED A PROGRAM
IN WHICH THE AGENCY WILL SPONSOR TWO DEMONSTRATION
SPACELAB MISSIONS IN 1982 AND 1983.

6. BUDGET - ALTHOUGH 1978 BUDGET OR THE LEVEL OF
RESOURCES FOR 78-80 WERE NOT APPROVED, AMPLE FUNDS WERE
MADE AVAILABLE TO ESA TO CONTINUE OPERATIONS THRU END
OF MARCH. FINAL APPROVAL IS EXPECTED AT THE FEBRUARY
COUNCIL. THIS BUDGET AND LEVEL OF RESOURCES RELATE ONLY
TO THE GENERAL BUDGET OF THE AGENCY. FUNDS IN SUPPORT
OF SPECIAL PROGRAMS SUCH AS SPACELAB, ARIANE, ETC. HAVE
PREVIOUSLY BEEN APPROVED. HARTMAN

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